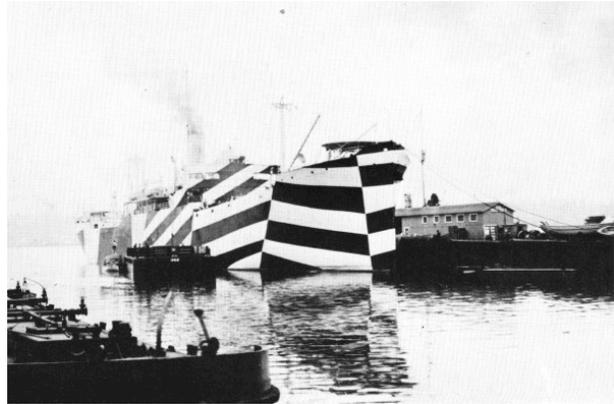


ADVANCED STUDIO
ARC 696 / 561R
Instructor: Nichole Wiedemann
Time: MWF 1:00-5:00pm

Office hours: W 9–11 (preferably by appt.)
Email: wiedemann@utexas.edu
Phone: 512-471-0736



Dazzle Ships

THICKNESS...

Counter to the increasing thinness and transparency as evidenced in the press, the studio will explore the role of “thickness” in architecture. *What is an architecture that conceals rather than reveals? Can poché exist in architecture today? What is the role of the façade if not to render the interior legible? What is the experience of thickness?* Given the program to be explored, there will be an emphasis, even a necessity, to design an architecture that obfuscates the relationship between the interior and exterior.

The studio will associate with Allied Works in Portland; a firm that is noted for its “research-based” approach to architecture in the pursuit of buildings that “resonate with their specificity of place and purpose.” (Brad Cloepfil) Utilizing an office project, *an undercover police station*, the studio will expand upon the requirement for anonymity to explore broader questions in architecture, as suggested above. Collaborating with Brent Linden (Associate Principal) and Allied Works will provide a unique underpinning to the semester with access to program research and background, site information and documentation and, even more importantly, the people and projects of this outstanding firm. A 4-day trip to Portland, with substantial funding by a generous gift, will include visits to Allied Works projects in Portland and the vicinity.

Ultimately, the studio is an investigation of an architecture that attempts to go beyond the current stylistic proclivities that we all enjoy. Utilizing a truly exceptional program and site, the studio will embrace CIRCUMSTANCE – things that condition or determine another- and INNOVATION -the moment that theories (invention) are put into practice, in order to push beyond our own assumptions.

program

Undercover police officers infiltrate organizations that are highly resistant to outsiders and obtain evidence that can be used to dismantle the network. These officers must tread the line between impersonating members of criminal organizations while still retaining their identity as police officers. With approximately 45,000sqft, the program has five main categories: 1) narcotics, 2) support/storage, 3) lockers/living, 4) warrants, and 5) administration, listed from largest to smallest. Given the irregularity in case schedules, the facility is accessible 24 hours a day. And, it goes without saying, the building itself is also “undercover.”

site

Portland is the largest city in the state of Oregon with roughly 650,000 people in the city and over 2,300,000 in the metropolitan area. An early settlement on the Oregon Trail located at the confluence of the Wilmette and Columbia River, the port city has prospered from transportation of goods and the timber industry. More recently, it has gained attention as a counter-culture city. Portland is known for strong land-use planning, including an “urban growth boundary” (1973), which has resulted in increased walkability, bike-ability, density, public transportation, and public parks. *Our specific site will be located at the city’s center; the “+” between north and south (Burnside) and east and west (Wilmette River).*

trip

The trip to Portland (February 8–12) is an integral aspect of this advanced studio and, therefore, required. While there will be independent time for exploration, the majority of the time in Portland will be devoted to gaining a deeper understanding of Allied Works’ “research-based” approach in discussions (*including a review of your work*) and touring projects; gathering information on the undercover police station; and trying to understand Portland and the specific site through direct experience. *In order to be successful, the trip requires your active engagement through dialogue and drawing.*

*schedule**

wk 1-4	Project 1: Thickness		25%
wk 4	Trip: Portland –site, buildings + firm	2.8–2.12	
	<i>Project 1: Review @ AWA</i>		
wk 5–15	Project 2: Undercover Police Station		65%
	<i>Project 2: Mid-Review 1</i>	3.20	
	<i>Project 2: Mid-Review 2</i>	TBA	
	Improvement/Engagement		10%

***Schedule may have revisions. Advance notice will be provided.**

grades

Establishing grades for projects of a creative nature is a more complex matter than grading in other academic areas. While each project contains certain quantifiable elements by which it may be evaluated, a significant portion of each grade is derived from a broader, more subjective set of issues. *Your work will be evaluated on its rigor and evolution over the semester.*

Grading for studio courses is broken into three components: 1/3 *grasp* (ideas combined with an appropriate process of inquiry), 1/3 *process* (the consistent and rigorous development of ideas) and 1/3 *resolution* (the demonstration of competence, completeness and understanding evidenced in the representation of the project and its architectural implications).

A/ A- : excellent

Project surpasses expectations in terms of inventiveness, appropriateness, verbal and visual ability, conceptual rigor, craft, and personal development. Student pursues concepts and techniques above and beyond what is discussed in class. The work submitted surpasses required drawings and models in depth and/or scope.

B+/ B/ B- : above average

Project is thorough, well researched, diligently pursued, and successfully completed. Student pursues ideas and suggestions presented in class and puts in effort to resolve required projects. The work demonstrates potential for excellence and is complete.

C+/ C/ C- : average and below

Project meets the minimum requirements. Suggestions made in class are not pursued with dedication or rigor. The work submitted is incomplete in one or more areas. For undergraduates, a grade of C- will not count toward the degree.

D+/ D/ D- : poor

Basic skills including graphic skills, model-making skills, verbal clarity or logic of presentation are not level-appropriate. Student does not demonstrate the required competence and knowledge base. The project is incomplete.

F : failure

Minimum objectives are not met. Performance is unacceptable. Note that this grade will be assigned due to excessive unexcused absences. Project unresolved/incomplete.

X : excused incomplete

Given only for legitimate reasons of illness or family emergency. Incomplete assignments are not a cause for assigning this grade. An "X" is used only after consultation with the administration and must include an agreement for completion of outstanding work and deadline. Resolution of the incomplete must be prior to the commencement of the next semester.

ALL GRADES ARE SUBJECT TO DEDUCTIONS FOR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES, LATE WORK + LATE ARRIVALS.

attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Participation is expected. With three (3) unexcused absences, the student's final grade for the course will be lowered by a full letter grade. *Please* contact the instructor prior to class if you expect to be late or miss class.

Religious holy days sometimes conflict with class schedules. Please notify me prior (14 days) to the class dates you will be absent to observe a religious holy day. If you miss a work assignment, or other project due to the observance of a religious holy day you will be given an opportunity to complete the work missed within a reasonable time after the absence.

students with disabilities

Students with disabilities who require special accommodations need to get a letter that documents the disability from the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Office of the Dean of Students (471-6259 voice or 471-4641 TTY for users who are deaf or hard of hearing). This letter should be presented to the instructor at the beginning of the semester and accommodations needed should be discussed at that time.

security, safety and the studio

The studio is an exceptional learning environment. Since it is a place for all, it necessitates the careful attention to the needs of individual. Please be considerate your classmates. All spraying of fixative, spray paint or any other substance must be done in the shop. Damages done to the facilities will not be tolerated by the School of Architecture.

Security is a necessary component for a studio that is accessible to you and your colleagues 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Be smart. Be safe.